

# factor

noun

▶ Say it: fac • tor

48

Write it: \_\_\_\_\_

## Academic Vocabulary Toolkit

### Meaning

something that affects a situation

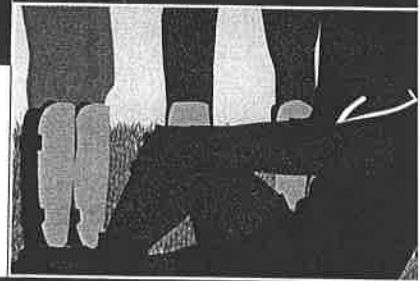
*Synonyms:* cause, reason

### Example

Not wearing protective

\_\_\_\_\_ is often a **factor**

in \_\_\_\_\_ injuries.



### Forms

- *Singular:* factor
- *Plural:* factors

### Family

- *Verb:* factor

### Word Partners

- contributing \_\_\_\_\_
- key \_\_\_\_\_
- significant \_\_\_\_\_

Texting while driving is a **contributing factor** in many car accidents.

The thunderstorm was a **key factor** in our decision to cancel the picnic.

Price will be a **significant factor** in what I decide to get my best friend for his birthday.

## Verbal Practice

**Talk about It** Read each sentence and think about how you would complete it.

**Discuss** your idea with your partner using the sentence frame.

**Listen** carefully to your partner's and classmates' ideas.

**Write** your favorite idea in the blank.

- ① One **factor** that can contribute to a bad grade on a test is

\_\_\_\_\_.

- ② \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are two **factors** that your teacher considers when he or she calculates your final grade.

## Writing Practice

**Collaborate** Work with your partner to complete the sentence using the correct form of **factor** and appropriate content.

\_\_\_\_\_ is often a contributing \_\_\_\_\_ to poor health.

**Your Turn** Work independently to complete the sentence using the correct form of **factor** and appropriate content.

Time is a key \_\_\_\_\_ in whether or not I can participate in

\_\_\_\_\_ during the school year.

**Be an Academic Author** Work independently to write two sentences. In your first sentence, use **factor** in the *singular form* and include a word partner. In your second sentence, use **factor** in the *plural form*.

① \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

② \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Write an Academic Paragraph** Complete the paragraph using the correct form of **factor** and original content.

Depression is a serious illness that \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> millions of teenagers and adults in the United States. There are a number of genetic and environmental \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> that can contribute to depression. First, if your mother or father had depression, there is an increased \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> that you will develop it also. Second, if you suffer from anxiety, you are also more likely to \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> depression. Third, a wide variety of environmental \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> can trigger episodes of depression. These include the loss of a loved one, such as a \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup>, experiencing emotional or physical trauma, and suffering abuse. Although none of these \_\_\_\_\_<sup>7</sup> guarantees that you will become depressed, it is important to be aware of the possibility and contact a mental health professional if you suspect that you or someone you know is experiencing depression.

### grammar tip

Count nouns name things that can be counted. Count nouns have two forms, singular and plural. To make most count nouns plural, add *-s*.

There were many contributing factors to the team's loss.

He likes board games.